

The book is rather extravagantly printed on heavy permanent paper, with an attractive, strong, buckram binding. The type is large and easy to read, and an impression of spaciousness is conveyed by the lack of overcrowding on the pages. The entire format of the production invites a leisurely perusal of its pages. The work will be an embellishment to any library, and a ready source of reference to anyone who is at all interested in the complexities of fern spores.—HELEN B. CORRELL AND D. S. CORRELL, *Texas Research Foundation, Renner, Texas 75079*.

TWO NEW FAMILIES OF FERNS, AND REMARKS ON THE CERATOPTERIDALES.—In recent papers R. E. G. Pichi-Sermolli has published two new families of ferns: Cryptogrammaceae and Actiniopteridaceae. Both families, as stated by Pichi-Sermolli, belong to the order Pteridales, and are described in connection with the Flora of Ethiopia. As these publications cause some changes in the systematics of higher taxa, their contents may be summarized:

CRYPTOGRAMMACEAE Pic.-Serm., *Webbia* 17: 299. 1963. Type genus *Cryptogramma* R. Br. in Richardson.

The family is divided into two tribes—Cryptogrammeae (with *Cryptogramma* R. Br. in Richards., and *Llavea* Lag.) and Onychieae (Ching) Pic.-Serm. (With *Onychium* Kaulf.). According to Pichi-Sermolli, the new family is allied to the Pteridaceae and the Actiniopteridaceae, but I believe that there also exists a strong relationship to the Sinopteridaceae.

ACTINIOPTERIDACEAE Pic.-Serm., *Webbia* 17: 5. 1963. Type (and sole) genus *Actiniopteris* Link.

The family consists of the sole genus *Actiniopteris*, with five species, with an Afro-Asiatic distribution. Pichi-Sermolli places this family in the order Pteridales, which is now composed of the families Negripteridaceae, Pteridaceae, Adiantaceae, Sinopteridaceae, Cryptogrammaceae, Actiniopteridaceae, Vittariaceae, and Gymnogrammaceae.

The Parkeriaceae (= Ceratopteridaceae), once<sup>1</sup> considered in

<sup>1</sup> Filicopsida, *Enciclop. Agr. Ital.* 649-662. 1960.

the Pteridales by Pichi-Sermolli is now treated by Pichi-Sermolli as Ceratopteridaceae and, furthermore, has been removed from the Pteridales to form a monotypic order, Ceratopteridales. As a genus *Ceratopteris* has recently been placed in the Adiantaceae by Alston.<sup>2</sup> Ching<sup>3</sup> referred it to the Ceratopteridaceae, and Copeland<sup>4</sup> (p. 83) placed it in the Parkeriaceae. This is a typically troublesome case of priority rights. *Ceratopteris* was published by Brongniart in 1821, and *Parkeria* by Hooker in 1825. In 1825 Hooker published the family Parkeriaceae, based on his genus *Parkeria*, and about a hundred years later, Maxon, taking the older name *Ceratopteris*, raised the genus to family rank in 1926 as Ceratopteridaceae. The name Parkeriaceae has priority. Therefore, are the Ceratopteridaceae correctly named?<sup>5</sup>—G. Kunkel, *Las Palmas, Gran Canaria*.

FLORE LAURENTIENNE by Frère Marie-Victorin, 2nd Ed. 1964, completely reviewed and corrected by Ernest Rouleau. Les Presses de L'Université de Montréal, Case Postale 6128, Montreal 3, Canada. \$16.50 plus .25 handling.—According to the publisher's release the second edition of Flore Laurentienne is "completely reviewed and corrected" and "the species at present known in the vascular flora of Quebec are described and commented upon: 637 new species." "Complete keys to the families, genera and species." After comparing the second edition with the first, one concludes that the operative word is indeed "reviewed," not revised. The book size is now 6½ x 9½ instead of 8¾ x 11¼ and the text is 927 pages against 917 pages, although throughout most of the book the pagination is unchanged. The reduction in page size has been achieved by drastically reducing

<sup>2</sup> The Ferns and Fern-Allies of West Tropical Africa. London. 89 pp. 1959.

<sup>3</sup> On Natural Classification of the Family "Polypodiaceae." Sunyatsenia 5: 201-268. 1940.

<sup>4</sup> Genera Filicum. Waltham, Mass. 247 pp. 1947.

<sup>5</sup> There is no rule that says that the names of Orders have to be based on the correct names of families, and therefore Ceratopteridales is a correct name, even though it is based on the incorrect family name, Ceratopteridaceae. On the other hand, since the names of Orders are exempted from the principle of priority, an ordinal name based on the family name Parkeriaceae could be proposed, if that were considered desirable.—[C.V.M.]